

Best Available Copy

Serial No. 10/058,000
Docket No. 30011897-3
LHB 1509-259
Page 20

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application and acknowledges the indication that claims 3, 8, 10, 11, 18, 22, 24, 25, 31, 35, 37, and 38 are allowable.

To expedite prosecution, Claims 2, 10, 11, 17, 23, 25, 36-38, and 42-45 are cancelled. Claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of former claim 11. Claim 1 and former claim 10 are combined to form claim 46. Claim 16 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 25. Claim 29 is amended to include the subject matter of former claim 37. Added claims 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, and 57 correspond respectively to claims 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, and 15, except for dependency; and means-plus-function language has been eliminated from the apparatus claims to obviate any interpretation under 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph. Hence, remaining independent claims 1, 16, 29, and 46 contain allowable subject matter.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance are deemed in order.

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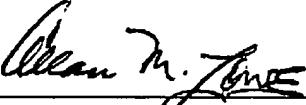
Serial No. 10/058,000
Docket No. 30011897-3
LHB 1509-259
Page 21

To the extent necessary during prosecution, Applicant hereby requests any required extension of time not otherwise requested and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any prescribed fees not otherwise provided for, including application processing, extension of time, and extra claims fees, to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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